

# CoCoRaHS – What to Do When You’ve Been Away

**Q:** I’ve been away for a few days, and came back to find precipitation in my gauge. How do I report it?

**A:** There are 2 options. If you’re certain that all the precipitation fell within a single day (and did not span two days – remember the “day” begins at 7am), then you can go ahead and send in a delayed report for that day. Otherwise, send in a “Multi-Day Accumulation Report.” If more rain is possible between the time you return and the next morning, then it is better to wait until 7am the next day, then send your multi-day accumulation report.



## Example Situation 1

You left on Monday July 2<sup>nd</sup> at Noon, and returned Thursday July 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. There is 0.50” of rain in your gauge. Talking to neighbors, you’re told that there was a bad thunderstorm Wednesday evening, cancelling July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks, but otherwise it hasn’t rained. How do you fill out your CoCoRaHS reports?

**Answer:** Enter 0.00” for Tue 7/3, 0.00” for Wed 7/4, and 0.50 for Thu 7/5. Be sure to empty your gauge. Remember your reports a valid at around 7am on the observing day. Since the rain on Thursday 7/4 fell in the afternoon, after the 7am reporting time, the precip would not be reported until 7am the next day, July 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Example Situation 2

You left on Friday August 10<sup>th</sup> at Noon, and returned Monday August 13<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm, and it is raining lightly. There is 1.27” of rain in your gauge. Talking to neighbors, you’re told that the weekend has been a wash-out. Several rounds of thunderstorms have affected the area. How do you fill out your CoCoRaHS report?

**Answer:** Since it is actively raining, it is better to leave your gauge alone until the next morning. Then, since you don’t know how much rain fell on each day, send a “Multi-Day Accumulation report” with the total amount. After that, you can empty your gauge resume taking your normal daily reports.

# CoCoRaHS – What to Do When You’ve Been Away

**Q:** I’ve been away for a few days, and it has rained several times during that period. However, I have a home weather station that can tell me the daily totals. Should I use those amounts in CoCoRaHS?

**A:** No. Most home weather stations use tipping-bucket rain gauges which can “miss” precipitation during heavy rainfall. Also, the data on your home weather station is likely to be recording precip “Midnight to Midnight” instead of 24 hours ending at 7 am. To keep life simple, just send a multi-day precipitation report with the total amount found in your 4” CoCoRaHS rain gauge.

Your home weather station data may still be valuable for other purposes. Considering joining the Citizen Weather Observing Program to share your data live via the internet!

# CoCoRaHS Previous Day Precipitation

1.) On the CoCoRaHS Homepage, Click “My Data” on the top Menu. The Daily Precip Report Form will come up, set to today’s date by default.

2.) Change the “Observation Date” to the appropriate date, and enter data as you normally would.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE RAIN, HAIL & SNOW NETWORK  
"Because every drop counts"

Home | States | View Data | Maps | **My Data** | My Account | Admin | Logout

### My Data Entry : Daily Precipitation Report Form

Submit Data | Reset

**Precipitation Report Form**

Station Number : NM-DA-217  
Station Name : Santa Teresa 1.1 NNW

\* Denotes Required Field

3/23/2012 \* **Observation Date** ?

7:00 AM \* **Observation Time** ?

0.00 \* **Rain and Melted Snow to the nearest hundredth inch that has fallen in the gauge during the past 24 hours** ?

Yes  No **Report was taken at registered location?**

**Observation Notes:** (This will be available to the public) ?

3.) If you only have Zeroes to report, click on “Monthly Zeroes” under “Enter My New Reports” on the left menu.

### My Data Entry : Monthly Zeros Form

Monthly Zeros | Submit | Reset

Station Number : NM-DA-217 Station Name : Santa Teresa 1.1 NNW

March 2012

<	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	>
26	27	28	29	1	2	3		
				Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: 0		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
Precip: 0	Precip: 0	Precip: T	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.0 Precip	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.0 Precip	<input type="checkbox"/> 0.0 Precip			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		

4.) Simply click on the check boxes for all those dates where Zero Precip fell, then click submit.

# CoCoRaHS Multiple Day Precipitation

1.) On the CoCoRaHS Homepage, Click “My Data” on the top Menu.

2.) Under ‘Enter My New Reports’ on the left menu, click on “Multi-Day Accumulation.”

3.) Enter the first day of the accumulation period. This will be one day after your last report. So if you last reported on Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 am, you would enter Monday March 11<sup>th</sup>.

4.) Enter the date the rain gauge was emptied, followed by the time it was emptied. It is best to wait until a regular reporting period to file a multi-day precip report. For example, if you came back home at 4pm, wait until 7am the next day.

5.) Enter the amount of liquid precipitation, current snow depth (leave blank if nothing), and liquid equivalent of snow depth (blank if nothing).

The screenshot shows the CoCoRaHS website interface. At the top, the logo and tagline "COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE RAIN, HAIL & SNOW NETWORK" are visible. A navigation bar includes "Home | States | View Data | Maps" and "My Data | My Account | Admin | Log". A red circle highlights "My Data" with a callout box labeled "1".

On the left sidebar, under "Enter My New Reports", "Multi-Day Accumulation" is highlighted with a red circle and a callout box labeled "2".

The main content area is titled "My Data Entry : Multi-Day Precipitation Report Form". It contains a "Multiple Day Accumulation Form" with "Submit Data" and "Reset" buttons. The form fields are:

- Station Number : NM-DA-217
- Station Name : Santa Teresa 1.1 NNW
- First day of accumulation period: 3/11/2012 (callout "3")
- Date the rain gauge was emptied: 3/12/2012 (callout "4")
- Time the rain gauge was emptied: AM (callout "4")
- Report was taken at registered location? (radio buttons for Yes and No)
- Multi Day Precipitation (in inches) (callout "5")
- Total Depth of Snow on Ground (in inches) (callout "5")
- Core Precipitation (in inches) (callout "5")

A "Notes" text area is located below the form fields. At the bottom of the page, a red circle highlights the "Submit Data" button with a callout box labeled "6".

6.) Finally, hit “Submit Data.”